

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A garment comprising a stretch fabric wherein the garment is adapted to cover at least a part of the lower body of a wearer, has a crotch part, and is adapted to be worn by being fitted to the wearer's body, wherein:

the garment in part has a portion with a strong straining force;

the portion with a strong straining force is a first strong straining portion;

wearer's right and left parts of the first portion are connected at a position on the back side of the garment corresponding to any region from os sacrum to vertebrae lumbalis of the wearer's body; and

the first portion covers a region extending from said position through tops of bulges of the buttocks in approximately a middle part of musculus gluteus maximus and approximately in the direction of muscle fibers of musculus gluteus-gluteus maximus at wearer's right and left to at least the vicinity of trochanter major.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The garment according to claim 1, further comprising a second strong straining portion, wherein:

wearer's right and left parts of the second portion are connected at a position on the garment corresponding to musculus rectus abdominis in a hypogastric region; and

the second portion covers a region extending obliquely downward from the position on musculus rectus abdominis in a hypogastric region approximately in the direction of muscle fibers of musculus obliquus internus abdominis at wearer's right and left to at least the vicinity of trochanter major.

Claims 3-6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (currently amended): A garment comprising:

a stretch fabric wherein the garment is adapted to cover at least a part of the lower body of a wearer, has a crotch part, and is adapted to be worn by being fitted to the wearer's body; a first strong straining portion with a strong straining force, wherein wearer's right and left parts of the first portion are connected at a position on the back side of the garment corresponding to any region from os sacrum to vertebrae lumbalis of the wearer's body;

the first portion covers a region extending from said position through tops of bulges of the buttocks or vicinities thereof approximately in the direction of muscle fibers of musculus gluteus maximus at wearer's right and left to at least the vicinity of trochanter major;

a second strong straining portion; and

a third strong straining portion for pressing abdomen;

wherein the third portion has a main stretch direction in the longitudinal direction of the garment;

the third portion covers the center of hypogastric region;

an end of the second portion is connected to each of wearer's right and left lower sides of the third portion; and

the second portion covers a region extending obliquely downward from the right and left lower sides of the third portion approximately in the directions of muscle fibers of musculus obliquus internus abdominis at wearer's right and left to at least the vicinity of trochanter major.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A garment comprising:

a stretch fabric wherein the garment is adapted to cover at least a part of the lower body of a wearer, has a crotch part, and is adapted to be worn by being fitted to the wearer's body;

a first strong straining portion with a strong straining force,

wherein wearer's right and left parts of the first portion are connected at a position on the back side of the garment corresponding to any region from os sacrum to vertebrae lumbalis of the wearer's body;

the first portion covers a region extending from said position through tops of bulges of the buttocks or vicinities thereof approximately in the direction of muscle fibers of *musculus gluteus maximus* at wearer's right and left to at least the vicinity of trochanter major;

a third strong straining portion for pressing abdomen; and

a fourth strong straining portion,

wherein the third portion has a main stretch direction in the longitudinal direction of the garment;

the third portion covers the center of a hypogastric region;

an end of the fourth portion is connected to each of wearer's right and left upper sides of the third portion; and

the fourth portion covers a region extending obliquely upward from the right and left upper sides of the third portion approximately in the direction of muscle fibers of *musculus obliquus externus abdominis* at wearer's right and left to at least a position exceeding the sides of the wearer to the back side.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A garment comprising:

a stretch fabric wherein the garment is adapted to cover at least a part of the lower body of a wearer, has a crotch part, and is adapted to be worn by being fitted to the wearer's body;

a first strong straining portion with a strong straining force,

wherein wearer's right and left parts of the first portion are connected at a position on the back side of the garment corresponding to any region from *os sacrum* to *vertebrae lumbalis* of the wearer's body;

the first portion covers a region extending from said position through tops of bulges of the buttocks or vicinities thereof approximately in the direction of muscle fibers of *musculus gluteus maximus* at wearer's right and left to at least the vicinity of trochanter major;

a second strong straining portion;

a third strong straining portion for pressing abdomen, and

a fourth strong straining portion,

wherein the third portion has a main stretch direction in the longitudinal direction of the garment;

the third portion covers the center of a hypogastric region;

an end of the second portion is connected to each of wearer's right and left lower sides of the third portion;

the second portion covers a region extending obliquely downward from the right and left lower sides of the third portion approximately in the direction of muscle fibers of musculus obliquus internus abdominis at wearer's right and left to at least the vicinity of trochanter major;

an end of the fourth portion is connected to each of wearer's right and left upper sides of the third portion; and

the fourth portion covers a region extending obliquely upward from the right and left upper sides of the third portion approximately in the direction of muscle fibers of musculus obliquus externus abdominis at wearer's right and left to at least a position exceeding the sides of the wearer to the back side.

Claims 10-12 (canceled).

Claim 13 (previously presented): The garment according to claim 1, wherein:
the second portion also has a fifth strong straining portion; and
the fifth portion further covers a region extending from the vicinity of trochanter major through a lower part of the bulges of the buttocks.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The garment according to claim 1, wherein:
the second portion also has a sixth strong straining portion ; and
the sixth portion further covers a region extending from the vicinity of trochanter major through at least a part of hamstrings in regio femoralis posterior.

Claims 15-24 (canceled).

Claim 25 (currently amended): A garment comprising:

a stretch fabric wherein the garment is adapted to cover at least a part of the lower body of a wearer, has a crotch part, and is adapted to be worn by being fitted to the wearer's body;

a first strong straining portion with a strong straining force,

wherein wearer's right and left parts of the first portion are connected at a position on the back side of the garment corresponding to any region from os sacrum to vertebrae lumbalis of the wearer's body;

the first portion covers a region extending from said position through tops of bulges of the buttocks or vicinities thereof approximately in the direction of muscle fibers of musculus gluteus maximus at wearer's right and left to at least the vicinity of trochanter major; and

a fourth strong straining portion,

wherein wearer's right and left parts of the fourth portion are connected at a position on the garment corresponding to musculus rectus abdominis in a hypogastric region; and

the fourth portion covers a region extending obliquely upward from the position on musculus rectus abdominis in hypogastric region approximately in the direction of muscle fibers of musculus obliquus externus abdominis at wearer's right and left to at least a position exceeding the sides of the wearer to the back side.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The garment according to claim 2, further comprising:

a fourth strong straining portion,,

wherein wearer's right and left parts of the fourth portion are connected at a position on the garment corresponding to musculus rectus abdominis in a hypogastric region; and

the fourth portion covers a region extending obliquely upward from the position on musculus rectus abdominis in a hypogastric region approximately in the direction of muscle fibers of musculus obliquus externus abdominis at wearer's right and left to at least a position exceeding the sides of the wearer to the back side.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A garment comprising:

a stretch fabric wherein the garment is adapted to cover at least a part of the lower body of a wearer, has a crotch part, and is adapted to be worn by being fitted to the wearer's body;

a first strong straining portion with a strong straining force,

wherein wearer's right and left parts of the first portion are connected at a position on the back side of the garment corresponding to any region from os sacrum to vertebrae lumbalis of the wearer's body;

the first portion covers a region extending from said position through tops of bulges of the buttocks or vicinities thereof approximately in the direction of muscle fibers of musculus gluteous-gluteus maximus at wearer's right and left to at least the vicinity of trochanter major; and

a seventh strong straining portion ,

wherein wearer's right and left parts of the seventh portion are connected approximately in the vicinity of a position on the garment corresponding to the back center of the waist; and

the seventh portion covers a region extending from the vicinity of the position at the back center of the waist through musculus latisimus dorsi and musculus gluteus medius at wearer's right and left and a part of musculus obloquies externus abdominis to at least a position exceeding the sides of the wearer to the front side.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The garment according to claim 26, further comprising:

a seventh strong straining portion,

wherein wearer's right and left parts of the seventh portion are connected approximately in the vicinity of a position on the garment corresponding to the back center of the waist; and

the seventh portion covers a region extending from the vicinity of the position at the back center of the waist through musculus latisimus dorsi and musculus gluteus medius at wearer's right and left and a part of musculus obloquies externus abdominis to at least a position exceeding the sides of the wearer to the front side.

Claim 29 (currently amended): A garment comprising:

a stretch fabric wherein the garment is adapted to cover at least a part of the lower body of a wearer, has a crotch part, and is adapted to be worn by being fitted to the wearer's body;
a first strong straining portion with a strong straining force,
wherein wearer's right and left parts of the first portion are connected at a position on the back side of the garment corresponding to any region from os sacrum to vertebrae lumbalis of the wearer's body; and

the first portion covers a region extending from said position through tops of bulges of the buttocks or vicinities thereof approximately in the direction of muscle fibers of musculus gluteous-gluteus maximus at wearer's right and left to at least the vicinity of trochanter major;

the first portion also has an eighth strong straining portion,

wherein the eighth portion further covers a region extending from the vicinity of trochanter major toward regio femoralis anterior medialis through at least a part of any at least one musculus quadriceps femoris selected from musculus sartorius, musculus rectus femoris and musculus vastus medialis.

Claim 30 (currently amended): A garment comprising:

a stretch fabric wherein the garment is adapted to cover at least a part of the lower body of a wearer, has a crotch part, and is adapted to be worn by being fitted to the wearer's body;

a first strong straining portion with a strong straining force,

wherein wearer's right and left parts of the first portion are connected at a position on the back side of the garment corresponding to any region from os sacrum to vertebrae lumbalis of the wearer's body; and

the first portion covers a region extending from said position through tops of bulges of the buttocks or vicinities thereof approximately in the direction of muscle fibers of musculus gluteous-gluteus maximus at wearer's right and left to at least the vicinity of trochanter major;

the first portion also has a ninth strong straining portion,

wherein the ninth portion further covers a region extending from the vicinity of trochanter major through the vicinity of tractus iliotibialis and/or musculus vastus lateralis in regio femoralis to a position a little higher than patella.

Claim 31 (currently amended): A garment comprising:

a stretch fabric wherein the garment is adapted to cover at least a part of the lower body of a wearer, has a crotch part, and is adapted to be worn by being fitted to the wearer's body;:
a first strong straining portion with a strong straining force,
wherein wearer's right and left parts of the first portion are connected at a position on the back side of the garment corresponding to any region from os sacrum to vertebrae lumbalis of the wearer's body; and

the first portion covers a region extending from said position through tops of bulges of the buttocks or vicinities thereof approximately in the direction of muscle fibers of musculus gluteous-gluteus maximus at wearer's right and left to at least the vicinity of trochanter major;

the first portion also has an tenth strong straining portion; and

the tenth portion further covers a region extending from the vicinity of trochanter major through the vicinity of tractus iliotibialis and/or musculus vastus lateralis to patella, and further from patella through the vicinity of musculus gastrocnemius and/or musculus soleus in the regio cruris lateralis to the vicinity of an upper part of malleolus lateralis so as to support musculus gastrocnemius and musculus soleus.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The garment according to 28, further comprising:

an eleventh strong straining portion in which the fourth portion and the seventh portion are united and continuous.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The garment according to claim 1, wherein a strong straining portion is formed by laminating a cloth on the front side or back side of a main body fabric of the garment.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The garment according to claim 1, wherein a strong straining portion is formed by changing a stitch for knitting a main body fabric of the garment to form a weak straining portion and a strong straining portion in patterns.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The garment according to claim 1, wherein a strong straining portion is formed by laminating a film of a synthetic resin or rubber having elasticity on a predetermined part of a main body fabric of the garment or by impregnating or coating a predetermined part of a main body fabric of the garment with a solution or emulsion of a synthetic resin or rubber having elasticity followed by drying.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The garment according to claim 1, wherein a strong straining portion has a straining force of 150 to 400 gf.

Claim 37 (previously presented): The garment according to claim 1, wherein the stretch fabric is a knitted fabric selected from a two-way stretch tricot and a stretch raschel.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The garment according to claim 1, wherein:
the garment comprises a stretch fabric,
the garment covers at least a part of the lower body of a wearer, has a crotch part, and is worn by being fitted to the wearer body, and
the garment is selected from a girdle, spats, sports tights, bodysuit, leotard and swimsuit.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The garment according to claim 1, wherein:
the garment comprises a stretch fabric,
the garment covers at least a part of the lower body of a wearer, has a crotch part, and is worn by being fitted to the wearer body, and
the garment has a leg part cylindrically covering regio femoralis of the wearer body to at least a position lower than the crotch part.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The garment according to claim 1, wherein:

the garment comprises a stretch fabric,

the garment covers at least a part of the lower body of a wearer, has a crotch part, and is worn by being fitted to the wearer body,

the position of a lower end of the garment is approximately the same as or higher than the position of the crotch part; and

the garment does not have a leg part cylindrically covering regio femoralis to at least a position lower than the crotch part.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The garment according to claim 31, further comprising a twelfth strong straining portion, wherein:

the twelfth portion covers a region extending from an upper part of regio femoralis medialis through musculus vastus medialis to patella so as to support musculus vastus medialis, and further from patella through the vicinity of one of musculus gastrocnemius and musculus soleus in region curis medialis to the vicinity of an upper part of malleolus medialis so as to support musculus gastrocnemius and musculus soleus.